<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please amend Claim 25 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claim, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

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25. (Twice Amended) A method of controlling a data communication apparatus in a data processing system that includes the data communication apparatus and a host computer connected to the data communication apparatus by an interface, said method comprising:

a communication step of communicating protocol information and document information with a communication partner through a network, but without going through the interface;

a notification step of notifying, through the interface, the host computer of information regarding an ability of the communication partner based on the protocol information received in said communication step in accordance with a command from the host computer; and

a setting step of setting one of an on-line mode, to be operated based on a command from the host computer, and an off-line mode, to be operated even without a command from the host computer,

wherein said notification step notifies the host computer of the information in a case where the on-line mode is set in said setting step.

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